

**DC**

**20c**

CHALLENGERS  
OF THE UNKNOWN

OF THE

NO. 80 JULY  
30482

# CHALLENGERS UNKNOWN

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THE  
**THING**  
THAT CAME  
OUT OF THE  
**SEA!**



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# The DAY THE EARTH BLEW UP



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AT A SECRET CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., A MATTER OF GRAVE CONCERN IS UNDER DISCUSSION...

FROM SHOWCASE #11 (NOV.-DEC., 1957)  
BY: JACK KIRBY



"YOU'VE HEARD COMMANDER LOCKWOOD! MUST WE ACCEPT HIS FACTS? CAN WE WRITE OFF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TWO OF OUR MOST VALUABLE SCIENTISTS AS A TRAGIC ACCIDENT?"

CARL JACKSON AND WARREN MOSS WERE NO STRANGERS TO LITTLE AMERICA! THEY WERE VETERAN EXPLORERS! MEN LIKE THAT DO NOT JUST VANISH!

THEY HAD AN ADVANTAGE OF THE LATEST AND BEST SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT! THE FACTS SHOW THEY NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO USE IT! WHY? WHY?

EXACTLY MY VIEW! WE HAVE A PROBLEM DEALING WITH THE **UNKNOWN**, GENTLEMEN! MAY I SUGGEST THE MEN MOST CAPABLE OF HANDLING IT-- **THE CHALLENGERS!**



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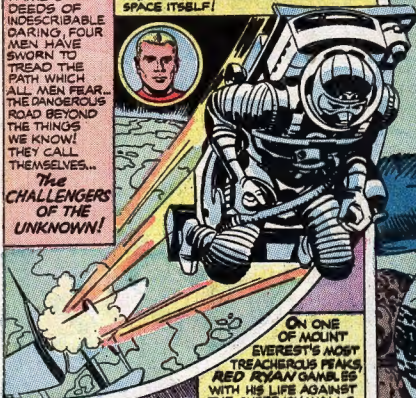
## CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



CATAPULTED INTO WORLD FAME BY DEEDS OF INDESCRIBABLE DARING, FOUR MEN HAVE SWORN TO TREAD THE PATH WHICH ALL MEN FEAR... THE DANGEROUS ROAD BEYOND THE THINGS WE KNOW! THEY CALL THEMSELVES...

*The*  
**CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN!**

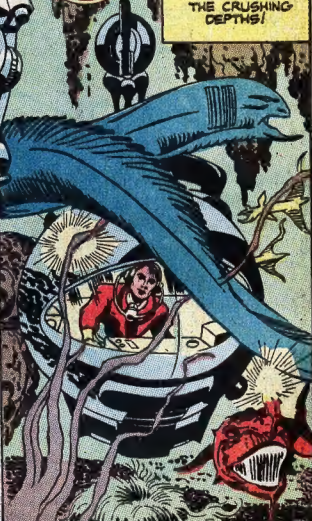
ONE OF THEM IS JET PILOT **ACE MORGAN**, WHO TESTS AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT ON THE THRESHOLD OF SPACE ITSELF!



ON ONE OF MOUNT EVEREST'S MOST TREACHEROUS PEAKS **RED RYAN** GAMBLER WITH HIS LIFE AGAINST THE SHEER ICY WALLS THAT RISE ABOVE THE CLOUDS!



ANOTHER IS **PROF HALEY**, WHO DARES TO EXPLORE THE SEA WHERE NO MAN WOULD RISK THE CRUSHING DEPTHS!



AND WHEN THE UNKNOWN TESTS A MAN'S STAMINA AND STRENGTH TO THEIR LIMIT, **ROCKY DAVIS**, CHAMPION WRESTLER, WILL RISK THAT TEST... ANY PLACE... ANY TIME!





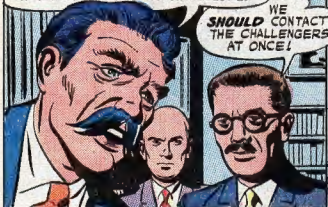
THERE IS NO DANGER, DARE OR CHALLENGING RISK THESE MEN WILL NOT ACCEPT! THEY'VE WALKED UNHARMED FROM A PLANE CRASH THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN FATAL. THIS HAS FORMED THEIR PHILOSOPHY--'WE'RE LIVING ON BORROWED TIME,' AND JUDGING FROM THEIR PREVIOUS ADVENTURES, THEY HAVE LIVED UP TO THEIR CODE:

WE SHOULD CONTACT THE CHALLENGERS AT ONCE!

A LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALL IS PLACED TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS WITHOUT DELAY...

YES, SIR! I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION! WE WILL MAKE IMMEDIATE PLANS! GOODBYE, SIR!

WHO'S THAT, ACE? HAS SOME BIRD HOOKED YOU INTO FLYING HIS ROCKET TO THE MOON?



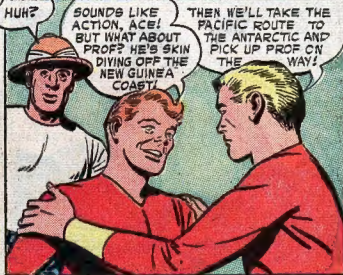
NOW, I'VE GOT A BEAUTY OF AN ASSIGNMENT-- TRACKING DOWN AN ANCIENT TOLTEC IDOL IN A TEMPLE DEEP IN THE JUNGLES OF YUCATAN!

THAT'S OUT, ROCKY! DITCH YOUR TROPICS AND SWITCH TO WARMER CLOTHING! WE'RE HEADING FOR LITTLE AMERICA!

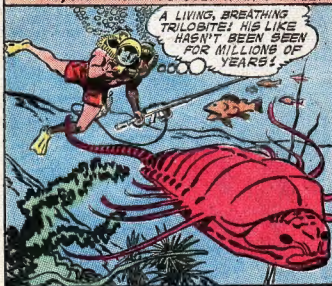
HUH?

SOUNDS LIKE ACTION, ACE! BUT WHAT ABOUT PROF? HE'S SKIN DIVING OFF THE NEW GUINEA COAST!

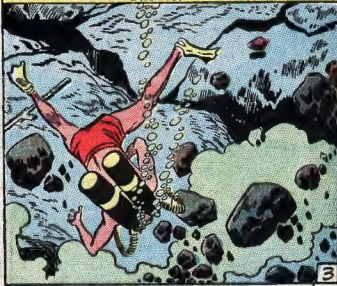
THEN WE'LL TAKE THE PACIFIC ROUTE TO THE ANTARCTIC AND PICK UP PROF ON THE WAY!



MEANWHILE, BENEATH THE WATERS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC, PROF HALEY PURSUES A RARE PRIZE!



SUDDENLY, THE OCEAN REELS TO A TREMENDOUS SHOCK!

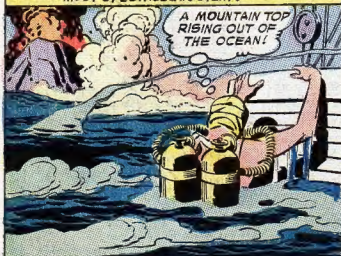




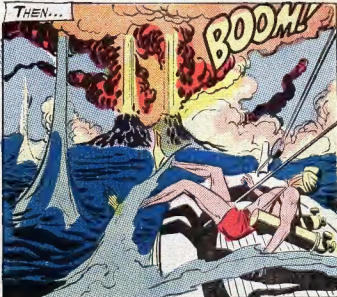
# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



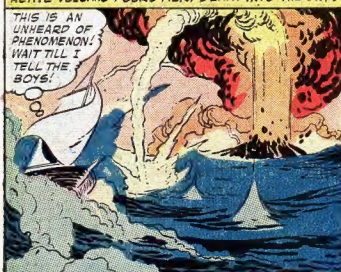
ALARMED BY THIS UNUSUAL DEVELOPMENT, PROF HEADS FOR THE SURFACE--AND WITNESSES A MOST SPECTACULAR SIGHT!



THEN...



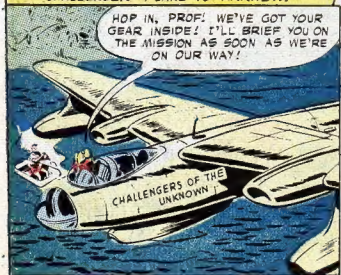
THE OCEAN STEAMS AND ROCKS AS THE NEWLY ACTIVE VOLCANO POURS FIERY DEATH INTO THE SKY!



WHEN PROF SAILS CLEAR OF THE FLAMING DESTRUCTION, HE ANSWERS THE URGENT SIGNALS FLOWING FROM THE RECEIVER OF HIS CABIN RADIO...



DOCKING HIS SMALL CRAFT NEAR HIS CAMP ALONG THE NEW GUINEA COAST, PROF WAITS FOR THE CHALLENGER PLANE TO ARRIVE...



LATER, AS PROF TELLS HIS STORY...







# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



THE LONG FLIGHT COMES TO AN END AT THE AMERICAN BASE IN THE GLACIAL VASTNESS OF THE ANTARCTIC!

HERE THEY COME NOW, COLONEL PRICE!

SEND THEM TO MY QUARTERS AS SOON AS THEY LAND!



SOON AFTER, IN THE COLONEL'S QUONSET HUT, THE CHALLENGERS MAP OUT THEIR NEXT MOVE!

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY, COLONEL. IF OUR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT ARE READY, WE'LL GET ON WITH THE JOB!

WE PRESSED THE SEARCH FOR JACKSON AND MOSS-- IN THIS AREA--AND FOUND NO TRACE OF THEM!



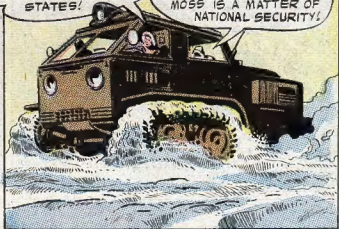
EXCEPT FOR THEIR ABANDONED EQUIPMENT, THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE SEEN ON THAT FLAT, ICY, BARREN WASTE-- NOTHING! AND YET, I HAD THE STRANGEST FEELING-- AS IF ALL AROUND ME WERE THINGS-- HIDING-- WATCHING--! A FANTASTIC NOTION IN A PLACE SO EXPOSED TO CLOSE INSPECTION!



THE CHALLENGERS, PROPERLY SUPPLIED AND EQUIPPED, LEAVE ON THEIR JOURNEY INTO THE WHITE UNKNOWN...

WHAT AN ASSIGNMENT! LOOKING FOR TWO GUYS FROZEN IN A CAKE OF ICE--THE SIZE OF THE UNITED STATES!

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE AN EXCITING JOB, BUT IT'S AN IMPORTANT ONE! THE FATE OF JACKSON AND MOSS IS A MATTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY!



THE MILES GO BY IN MONOTONOUS SUCCESSION UNTIL A BLIZZARD OF BLINDING FORCE WHIPS ACROSS THE FROZEN WASTELANDS!

WOW! I'VE SEEN BLIZZARDS-- BUT NOTHING LIKE THIS!

NO USE RIDING BLIND-- WE MIGHT HIT A CREVASSE! WE'LL STOP HERE AND WAIT TILL THIS BLOW OVER!



AFTER MANY HOURS...

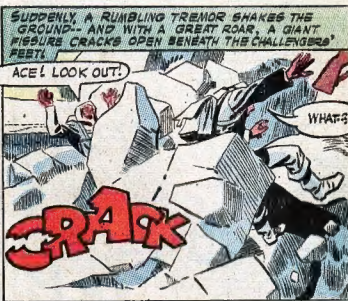
THE BLIZZARD'S DIED DOWN, PROF! ROCKY AND I WILL LOOK AROUND TO GET OUR BEARINGS!

OKAY! RED AND I WILL DIG THIS SNOWY WAGON OUT OF THESE DRIFTS!





I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY MILES AND MILES OF NOTHING!



SUDDENLY, A RUMBLING TREMOR SHAKES THE GROUND... AND WITH A GREAT ROAR, A GIANT FISSURE CRACKS OPEN BENEATH THE CHALLENGERS' FEET!

ACE! LOOK OUT!

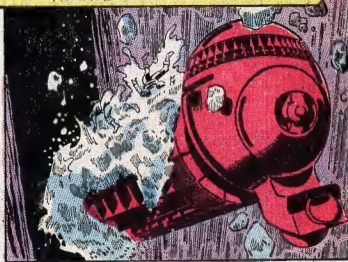
WHAT?

**CRACK**

THE MEN DROP LIKE STONES INTO THE DEEP CREVASSE!



MIRACULOUSLY, THEIR FALL IS BROKEN WHEN THEY LAND ON A HUGE METALLIC MASS PROJECTING FROM THE WALL OF THE CREVASSE!



ACE! WE'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE! BUT WHAT IS THIS THING?

I..I DON'T KNOW, ROCKY!

THIS GIANT TUBE IS THE HANDWORK OF A STRANGE INTELLIGENCE! WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK WITH NEWS OF THIS!

WE CAN'T CLIMB UP THE CREVASSE! IT'S TOO HIGH -- A SHEER WALL OF ICE! THERE'S NO WAY OUT OF THIS! WE'RE TRAPPED, ACE!



CONTINUED ON 24th PAGE FOLLOWING



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## CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



MEANWHILE, ON THE SURFACE ABOVE...

DID YOU FEEL THAT EARTH TREMOR, RED? IT KNOCKED ME OFF MY FEET!

QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO ACE AND ROCKY!

THEIR TRACKS LEAD TO THIS OPEN CREVASSEL RED-- DO YOU THINK THEY--

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY FELL THROUGH. LET'S GO BACK TO THE TRACTOR FOR EQUIPMENT! IF THERE'S A SLIM CHANCE THEY'RE ALIVE, WE'RE GOING TO HAUL THEM UP!



BUT, AS THEY NEAR THE TRACTOR...

PROF! LOOK!

GOOD GRIEF! WHAT ARE THEY?

I-I'VE NEVER SEEN THEIR LIKE BEFORE! THEY'VE CUT US OFF FROM THE TRACTOR!

--AND OUR RIFLES!

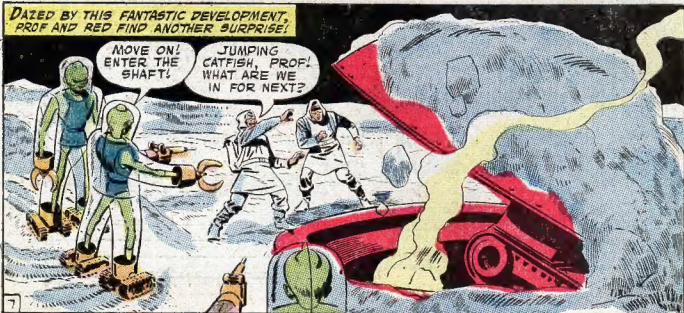
DO NOT ATTEMPT ESCAPE! WE CAN ANTICIPATE YOUR EVERY MOVE! YOU MUST COME WITH US!



DAZED BY THIS FANTASTIC DEVELOPMENT, PROF AND RED FIND ANOTHER SURPRISE!

MOVE ON! ENTER THE SHAFT!

JUMPING CATFISH, PROF! WHAT ARE WE IN FOR NEXT?







# THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

GO DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, FOR AN ENDLESS DROP INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH-- WHERE THE DOORS OF THE UNKNOWN HAVE BEEN FLUNG OPEN WIDE--TO ADMIT THE GREATEST DANGER EVER KNOWN TO MAN--

## THE TYRANS

CHAPTER TWO



FORCED OVER THE LIP OF A GREAT OPENING IN THE EARTH, PROF AND RED, ACCOMPANIED BY A NEW ESCORT OF THE STRANGE CREATURES, FLOAT DOWN A GIANT SHAFT THAT PLUNGES DEEP INTO THE EARTH!

PROF! WE SHOULD BE  
DROPPING LIKE STONES!  
B-BUT WE'RE  
FLOATING  
DOWN!

THOSE CREATURES  
SOMEHOW CONTROL  
THE GRAVITY IN  
THIS SHAFT!

CONTINUED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING

# Super

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P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."  
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**MAIL TODAY**







# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



**WHEN THEY FINALLY REACH BOTTOM...**

LET'S TRY TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT WHEN WE LAND!

IT'S WORTH A TRY, RED!

**BUT THEIR PLAN IS NIPPED IN THE BUD WHEN THEY TOUCH GROUND!**

PROF! LOOK OUT! (COUGH-->) GAS--GAS!

A DASH OF ATMOSPHERE FROM THE FOURTH PLANET OF OUR OWN STAR SYSTEM MAY NOT AFFECT US-- BUT IT REACTS LIKE AN ANESTHETIC ON EARTHMEN!

THEY SLEEP! NOW LET US CARRY OUT OUR ORDERS!

**MEANWHILE, TRAPPED ON THE STRANGE MAMMOTH TUBE THAT PROJECTS FROM THE WALL OF A DEEP CREVASSE, ACE AND ROCKY SEEK A WAY OUT OF THEIR DANGEROUS PREDICAMENT...**

THIS LOOKS LIKE SOME GIANT VENTILATOR TUBE! WE COULD CRAWL THROUGH THIS VALVE AND SEE WHERE THE TUBE LEADS!

IT FEELS HOT INSIDE WE MAY HAVE TO TAKE OFF OUR ARCTIC CLOTHES!

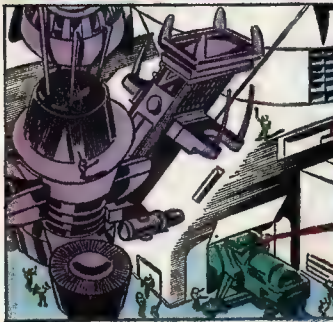
YOU WERE RIGHT, ROCKY!

WOH! A GUY COULD ROAST IN HERE!

**ACE AND ROCKY MAKE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE GREAT TUBE FOR WHAT SEEMS ENDLESS MILES. THEN...**

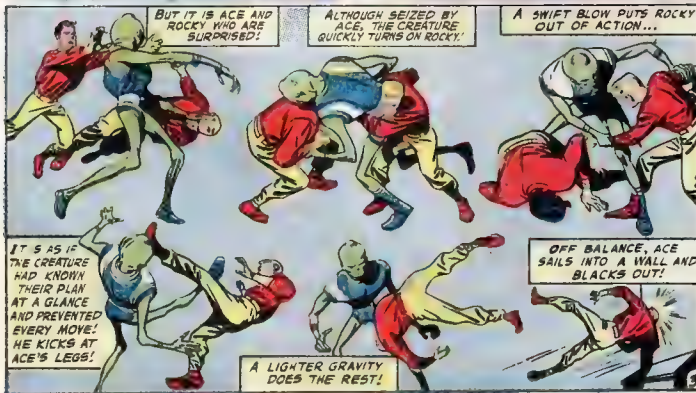
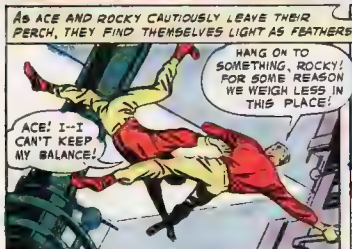
ROCKY! LOOK!

GOOD GRIEF! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?





# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN







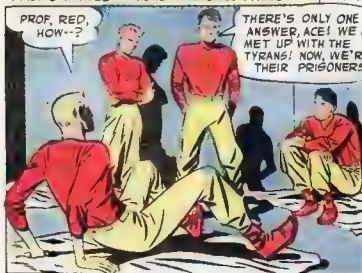
# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



WHEN ACE COMES TO, HE IS STARTLED AT FINDING HIMSELF AMONG FAMILIAR FACES!

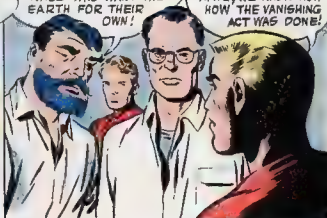
IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT TYRANS ARE, YOUNG MAN, THEY ARE INHABITANTS OF THE STAR THEY CALL TYRAN--AN AGGRESSIVE RACE WHO WANT THE EARTH FOR THEIR OWN!

DON'T TELL ME! YOU GENTLEMEN ARE JACKSON AND MOSS, THE MISSING SCIENTISTS! AT ANY RATE, WE KNOW NOW HOW THE VANISHING ACT WAS DONE!



PROF. RED, HOW--?

THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER, ACE! WE ALL MET UP WITH THE TYRANS! NOW, WE'RE THEIR PRISONERS!



THE TRICK OF GETTING BACK WON'T BE SIMPLE! MY COLLEAGUE, DR. JACKSON, HAS BARELY TOUCHED ON THE TYRAN MENACE! YOU'VE SEEN THESE BEINGS--YOU'VE SEEN

HOW EASILY THEY OUT-MANEUVERED YOU!

IT BEATS ME HOW ONE OF THOSE STICK-LEGGED, PUFFED-UP CLOWNS WITH A BUMP ON HIS HEAD CAN BEAT A GUY TO THE PUNCH!

THAT BUMP ON HIS HEAD IS AN AUXILIARY BRAIN! IT'S VERY MUCH LIKE A MATHEMATICAL COMPUTER--A CALCULATING MACHINE!

IN SHORT, SIR, WE "CLOWNS" CAN CALCULATE ANY POSSIBLE MOVE YOU MIGHT MAKE TO ESCAPE-- I CAN TELL YOU THAT ANY SUCH MOVE WOULD BE INSTANTLY BLOCKED.



DO NOT APOLOGIZE FOR THE YOUNG EARTHMAN'S BRASHNESS, SCIENTIST MOSS! I FIND YOUR SPECIES MOST INTERESTING... I SHALL CONTINUE TO DO MY BEST TO PRESERVE A FEW FOR STUDY ON THE DAY OF THE GREAT SHOCK

WHO IS HE, MOSS? WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

COME! THERE IS TO BE A DEMONSTRATION THAT WILL ENLIGHTEN YOU! I HAVE BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION BY GENERAL TOLEK TO ALLOW YOU TO WITNESS IT!





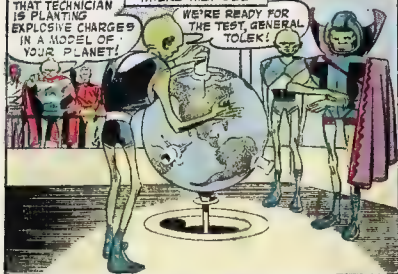
# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



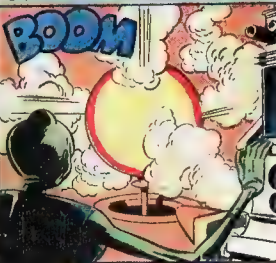
THE TYRAN LEADS THE EARTHMEN INTO A GREAT CHAMBER, WHERE THEY SEE--

THAT TECHNICIAN IS PLANTING EXPLOSIVE CHARGES IN A MODEL OF YOUR PLANET!

WE'RE READY FOR THE TEST, GENERAL TOLEK!



AT A SIGNAL FROM THE GENERAL, A SWITCH IS THROWN-- AND A SERIES OF EXPLOSIVES ROCK THE MODEL PLANET!



WHAT YOU SEE, EARTHMAN, IS A SMALL SCALE MODEL TEST OF OUR FINAL OPERATION ON YOUR PLANET... A SIMULTANEOUS EXPLOSION OF GIANT CHARGES WILL TEAR A CALCULATED AMOUNT OF A MASS FROM THE CORE OF YOUR PLANET...

"AND FLING IT OUT INTO SPACE! THIS WILL LIGHTEN YOUR PLANET, CHANGING ITS SPECIFIC GRAVITY..."



"GREAT TIDAL WAVES FROM YOUR OCEANS WILL SWEEP OVER YOUR CITIES!"

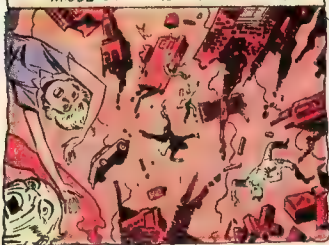


"OF COURSE, ALL THIS WILL RESULT IN CHAOS ON YOUR PLANET, AND THE SURVIVORS WILL BE EASILY CONQUERED. WE TYRANS WILL THEN TAKE OVER A WORLD WHOSE GRAVITY IS IDEAL FOR US."

IN THIS MANNER, WE TYRANS HAVE EXPANDED ACROSS MANY GALAXIES. THAT IT WILL DESTROY MANY INTERESTING FORMS OF LIFE IS REGRETTABLE, BUT IT CANNOT BE HELPED!

YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT, I'LL...

EASY, PAL! DON'T UPSET THE APPLE CART!







# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



WHEN THEY ARE RETURNED TO THEIR CELL, ACE IS GIVEN MORE INFORMATION...

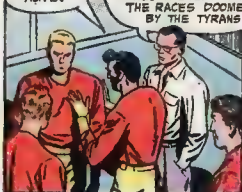
DON'T BLOW YOUR TOP, ACE! THAT TYRAN IS THE REASON WE'RE STILL ALIVE!

HIS NAME IS GARNAT! HE'S A CIVILIAN SCIENTIST ATTACHED TO THE TYRAN TASK FORCE HERE! HE MAKES A STUDY OF ALL THE RACES DOOMED BY THE TYRANS!

THESE TYRANS CAN'T BE INVINCIBLE! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO OUTSMART THEM.

BUT THOSE AUXILIARY BRAINS! YET, IF THEIR MINDS OPERATE FASTER THAN OURS, I'LL WAGER THEY'LL TIRE MORE EASILY!

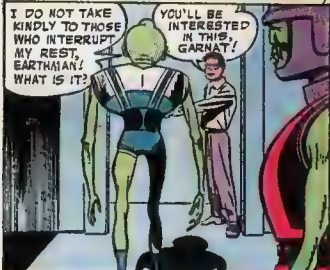
THAT MAY BE THE CRACK IN THEIR ARMOR! IF YOU CAN GET THIS GARNAT HERE DURING HIS REST PERIOD, HE'LL BE JUST RIPE FOR WHAT I'VE GOT IN STORE FOR HIM!



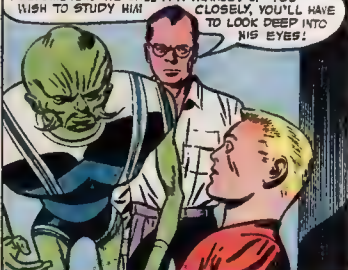
LATER, GARNAT IS AWAKENED BY A GUARD WITH AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE BARTHAIEN...

I DO NOT TAKE KINDLY TO THOSE WHO INTERRUPT MY REST, BARTHAIEN! WHAT IS IT?

YOU'LL BE INTERESTED IN THIS, GARNAT!



ONE OF OUR MEN IS EXPERIENCING A RARE PHENOMENON! WE CALL IT A TRANCE! IF YOU WISH TO STUDY HIM CLOSELY, YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK DEEP INTO HIS EYES!



BUT IN ACE'S STARING EYES IS A TRAP! AND THROUGH HIS LIPS COMES A MONOTONOUS DRONING SOUND THAT WEAVES A SPELL ABOUT THE ALREADY DROWSY TYRAN...

SLEEP-- YOU MUST-- SLEEE--EEP--



SOON, ACE BOLTS TO HIS FEET AND...

GARNAT! YOUR WILL IS NOW MINE! YOU WILL OBEY MY EVERY COMMAND!

I WILL OBEY!

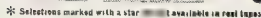
ACE! YOU DID IT! YOU HYPNOTIZED HIM! WE'VE GOT OURSELVES AN AUXILIARY BRAIN!



CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING

**If you join the Columbia Record Club and agree to buy 11 records (at regular Club prices) in the next 2 years**

**If you join the Columbia Record Club and agree to buy 11 records (at regular Club prices) in the next 2 years**





# or Any 11 tapes for only \$1<sup>97</sup>

if you join the Columbia Tape Club and agree to buy 8 tapes (at regular Club prices) in the next 2 years



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You may accept or reject selections as follows: whichever Club you join every four weeks you will receive a new copy of your Club's music magazine, which describes the regular selection for each musical interest... plus hundreds of alternate selections from every field of music.

... If you do not want any selection offered, just mail the response card a ways provided by the date specified.

... If you want only the regular selection for your musical interest, you need do nothing — it will be shipped to you automatically.

... If you want any of the other selections offered, order them on the response card and mail it by the date specified.

... And from time to time we will offer some special selections, which you may reject by mailing the dated response form provided... or accept by simply doing nothing.

You'll be eligible for your Club's bonus plan upon completing your enrollment agreement — a plan which enables you to save at least 33% on all your future purchases. Act now!

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I am enclosing check or money order for \$1.97, as payment for the 15 records indicated below. Please accept my membership application to the Columbia Record Club. I agree to buy eleven records at regular Club prices in the coming two years — and may cancel membership at any time after doing so.

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MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one box only)

Easy Listening Teen Hits Classical (C-2) SDF  
Broadway & Hollywood Country Jazz

I am enclosing my check or money order for \$1.97, as payment for the 11 tapes indicated below. Please accept my membership application to the Columbia Tape Club. I agree to buy eight tapes at regular Club prices in the coming two years — and may cancel membership at any time after doing so.

SEND ME THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF TAPES (check one box only)

Cartridges (K-X) Cassettes (K6-X) Reel Tapes (K7-Y) SDF

### OR TAPES

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MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one box only)

Easy Listening Teen Hits Country Classical

Whichever Club you joined, all selections will be described in advance in the Club magazine, sent every four weeks. If I do not wish any selection... or want any selection I do want, I will only the regular selection for my musical interest. I need do nothing — it will be shipped automatically. Occasionally, I'll be offered special selections which I may accept or reject by using the dated form provided.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print) First Name Initial Last Name

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Do You Have A Telephone? (check one) YES..... NO

APO, FPO addresses, write for special offer D78/573





## CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



HOW MUCH TIME HAS MANKIND LEFT--BEFORE IT IS BLASTED INTO CHAOS BY HIDDEN INVADERS? ONLY THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN CAN TAKE ANY ACTION! BUT HAVE THEY GOT A CHANCE AGAINST THE STAGGERING MIGHT OF THE CONQUERING TYRANS? CAN THEY STOP A SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE THAT GUIDES COLOSSAL ENGINES OF DESTRUCTION LIKE--

# THE THING THAT CAME OUT OF THE SEA

CHAPTER  
THREE







# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



FROM THE HYPNOTIZED TYRAN NOW UNDER THEIR CONTROL, THE CHALLENGERS DRAIN WHAT FACTS THEY CAN FROM HIM BEFORE THEY ATTEMPT ESCAPE...

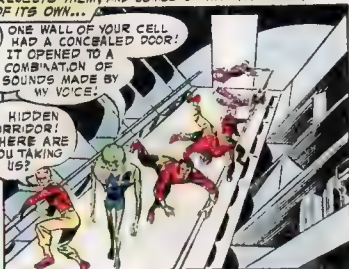
WE NOW HAVE A CREW PLANTING THE LAST OF OUR EARTH-SHATTERING CHARGES IN THE WATERS OFF THE AMERICAN COAST. THEN WE WILL BE READY SIMULTANEOUSLY.

THAT ERUPTION I TOLD YOU ABOUT MUST HAVE BEEN ONLY A SMALL PRELIMINARY TEST!

THE CHALLENGERS SUBMIT VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS FOR ESCAPE TO THE HYPNOTIZED TYRAN. GARNAT'S AUXILIARY BRAIN ABSORBS THEM-- SORTS THEM-- REJECTS THEM, AND COMES UP WITH AN ANSWER OF ITS OWN...

ONE WALL OF YOUR CELL HAD A CONCEALED DOOR! IT OPENED TO A COMBINATION OF SOUNDS MADE BY MY VOICE!

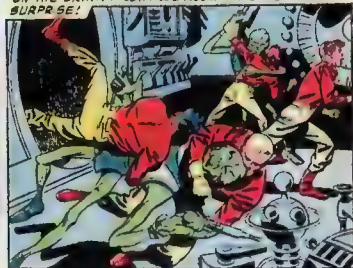
A HIDDEN CORRIDOR! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?



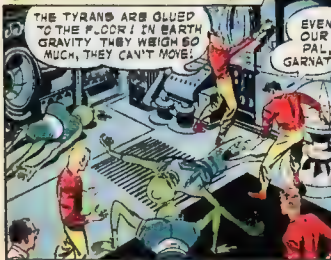
TO THE GRAVITY CONTROL ROOM! FUNCTIONING IN TYRAN GRAVITY, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE! IF THE CONTROLS WERE SET FOR EARTH GRAVITY, IT IS THE TYRANS WHO WOULD BE AT YOUR MERCY!



WHAT ONE OF THEIR NUMBER SHOULD FALL VICTIM TO HYPNOSIS IS INCONCEIVABLE TO THE TYRANS AND THEIR AUXILIARY BRAINS. THE CHALLENGERS' ATTACK ON THE GRAVITY CONTROL ROOM ACHIEVES TOTAL SURPRISE!

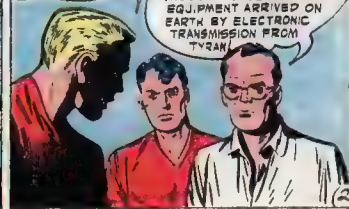


PROF FIGHTS HIS WAY TO THE GRAVITY CONTROLS AND WITH THE HYPNOTIZED TYRAN'S HELP, ESTABLISHES EARTH GRAVITY IN THE ROOM! THEN...



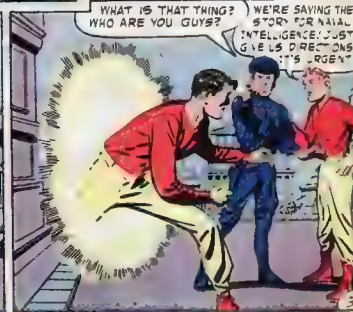
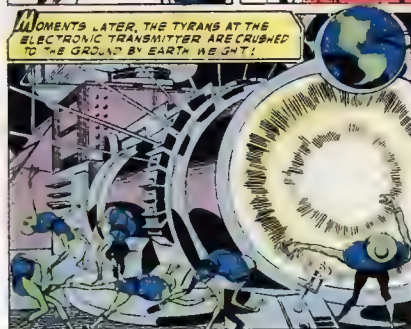
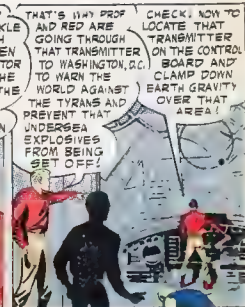
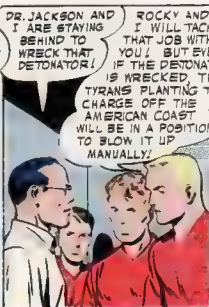
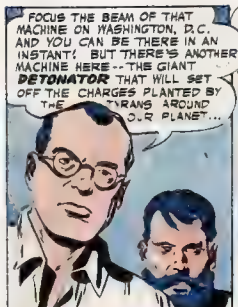
YOU'VE LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BASE, DR. MOSS! WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY OF MAKING A QUICK EXIT!

GARNAT TOLD ME ABOUT A MACHINE THAT BEAMS THE TYRANS BODILY ACROSS ANY DISTANCE! THEY USE NO SPACESHIPS! THESE PEOPLE AND THEIR EQUIPMENT ARRIVED ON EARTH BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION FROM TYRAN.





# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



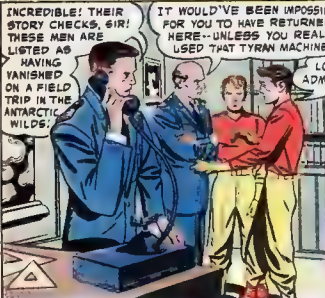




# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



SOON AFTER, IN A ROOM AT NAVAL INTELLIGENCE...



INCREDIBLE! THEIR STORY CHECKS, SIR! THESE MEN ARE LISTED AS HAVING VANISHED ON A FIELD TRIP IN THE ANTARCTIC WILDS!

IT WOULD'VE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO HAVE RETURNED HERE--UNLESS YOU REALLY USED THAT TYRAN MACHINE!

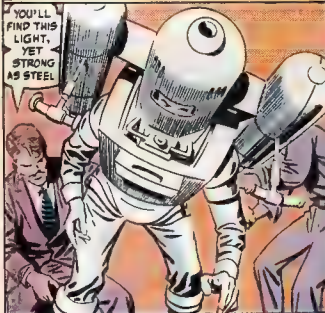
LOOK, ADMIRAL--

THERE IS VERY LITTLE TIME LEFT! THE TYRAN EXPLOSIVE NOW BEING PLANTED OFF OUR COAST MUST NOT BE TRIGGERED MANUALLY! IF IT GOES OFF, IT WILL WRECK THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND DO TREMENDOUS DAMAGE TO OUR CITIES AND SHIPPING!

GREAT SCOTT! ALL OUR RESOURCES MUST GO INTO AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO STOP THAT EXPLOSION!

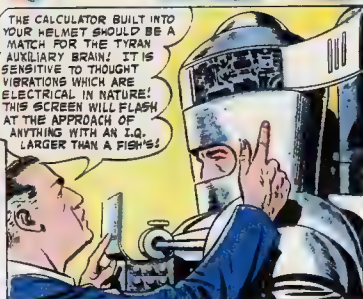


THE EFFORT IS MADE--A TREMENDOUS EFFORT! SCORES OF SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICAL LABOR, ORGANIZED IN TEAMS, WORK SWIFTLY, INTENSELY, TIRELESSLY AND ALMOST OVERNIGHT PRODUCE A MOST AMAZING DIVING SUIT FOR PROF!

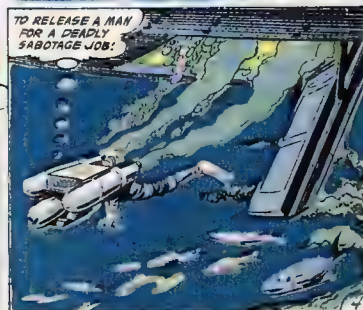


YOU'LL FIND THIS LIGHT, YET STRONG AS STEEL

THE CALCULATOR BUILT INTO YOUR HELMET SHOULD BE A MATCH FOR THE TYRAN AUXILIARY BRAIN! IT IS SENSITIVE TO THOUGHT VIBRATIONS WHICH ARE ELECTRICAL IN NATURE! THIS SCREEN WILL FLASH AT THE APPROACH OF ANYTHING WITH AN I.Q. LARGER THAN A FISH'S!



TO RELEASE A MAN FOR A DEADLY SABOTAGE JOB!



AFTER SWIFT BUT CAREFUL PREPARATION...

A LARGE NAVAL FORCE WOULD AROUSE THE TYRANS' SUSPICIONS--BUT A LONE SUBMARINE PLYING A NORMAL SEA ROUTE WOULD STAND A BETTER CHANCE...



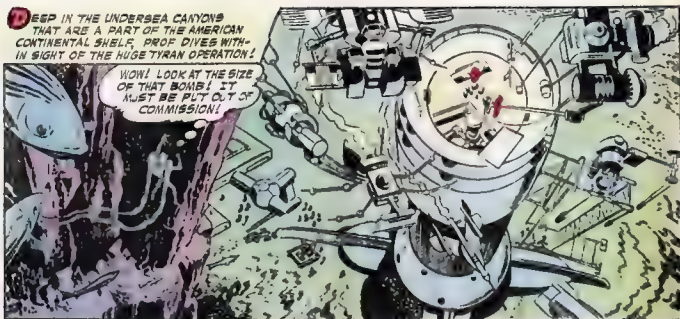


# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



**D**EEP IN THE UNDERSEA CANYONS THAT ARE A PART OF THE AMERICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF, PROF DIVES WITHIN SIGHT OF THE HUGE TYRAN OPERATION!

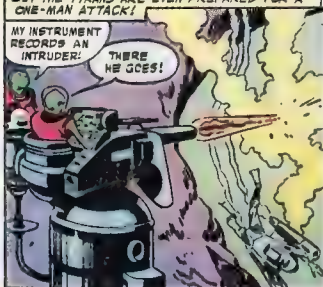
WOW! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT BOMB! IT MUST BE PUT OUT OF COMMISSION!



BUT THE TYRANS ARE EVEN PREPARED FOR A ONE-MAN ATTACK!

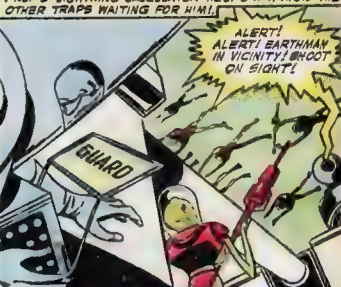
MY INSTRUMENT RECORDS AN INTRUDER!

THERE HE GOES!



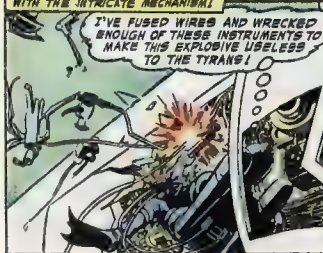
PROF'S LIGHTNING CALCULATOR HELPS HIM AVOID THE OTHER TRAPS WAITING FOR HIM!

ALERT! ALERT! EARTHMAN IN VICINITY! SHOOT ON SIGHT!



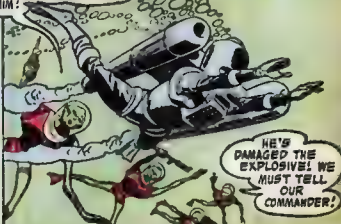
ELUDING HIS PURSUERS, PROF MAKES HIS WAY TO THE HUGE TYRAN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE, AND FINDING AN OPEN SECTION, PROCEEDS TO WREAK HAVOC WITH THE INTRICATE MECHANISM!

I'VE FUSED WIRES AND WRECKED ENOUGH OF THESE INSTRUMENTS TO MAKE THIS EXPLOSIVE USELESS TO THE TYRANS!



THE TYRANS DISCOVER PROF TOO LATE! HIS WORK IS DONE AND HE BOLTS FOR FREEDOM!

THE EARTHMAN! GET HIM!



HE'S DAMAGED THE EXPLOSIVE! WE MUST TELL OUR COMMANDER!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.



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Address

City, State, Zip

## MAIL COUPON TODAY!



# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



SOON AFTER, IN THE QUARTERS OF THE TYRAN COMMANDER...

OUR MISSION IN THESE WATERS HAS BEEN DISCOVERED AND SABOTAGED! WHAT'S MORE, WE CANNOT GET OUR CREWS BACK THROUGH THE TRANSMITTER-- THERE MUST BE SOME TROUBLE AT OUR ANTARCTIC BASE!



THEN, IF WE CAN'T WITHDRAW, WE SHALL ASSEMBLE OUR MACHINES AND LAUNCH A DIRECT INVASION OF THE LAND ON THE SURFACE!



BUT THE UNITED STATES AIR AND NAVAL FORCES ARE WAITING ABOVE! WHEN THE TYRANS EMERGE...

HERE THEY COME! OPEN FIRE!



THE NAVAL FORCES DO NOT CEASE FIRING UNTIL THEY FEEL CERTAIN THE TYRANS ARE DESTROYED. BUT, LATER, ON A COASTAL ISLAND OCCUPIED BY A GARRISON OF MARINES...

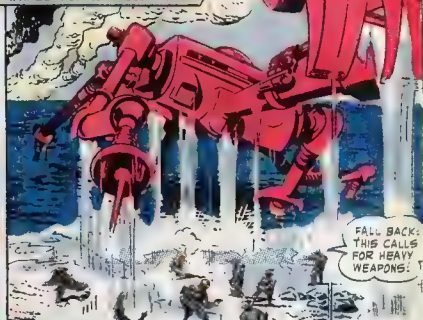
SIR! WHAT'S THAT COMING OUT OF THE WATER?



NOTHING CAN STOP THE TYRAN MACHINE...



RIISING FROM THE WAVES LIKE SOME HUGE, PRIMEVAL MONSTER, A LONE SURVIVOR OF THE NAVAL ATTACK MAKES FOR THE ISLAND!



FALL BACK: THIS CALLS FOR HEAVY WEAPONS!

MEANWHILE, RED RYAN, WHO HAS BEEN AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS, GETS NEWS OF THE TYRANS' EMERGENCE ON SHORE!

THE MARINES' SITUATION IS DESPERATE, SIR! THEY'LL NEED FLEET AND AIR SUPPORT!

THAT MAY COST MANY LIVES! PROF HAS DONE HIS JOB-- NOW -BT ME DO MINE.



CONTINUED IN CHAPTER FOUR



## CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



**THE CHIPS ARE DOWN! THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN HAVE FORCED THE HANDS OF THE TYRANS! WITH THEIR MISSION REVEALED, THE TYRANS HAVE BUT ONE CHOICE--TO DETONATE THE REST OF THE EXPLOSIVES THEY HAVE PLANTED AROUND THE EARTH! AND HUMANITY'S LAST HOPE IS A HANDFUL OF MEN FIGHTING DESPERATELY AGAINST TIME!**

**THIS IS THE FACE OF THE ENEMY--THE TYRAN GENERAL TOLEK! MIRRORED IN HIS EYES IS THE CRUEL DECISION TO SET OFF HIS WORLD-WIDE NETWORK OF EXPLOSIVES!**

### CHAPTER FOUR

**AND IN THE HEART OF THE ENEMY CAMP, ACE AND ROCKY HAVE THE MOST DANGEROUS JOB IN ALL HISTORY--TO REACH THE DETONATOR AND WRECK IT!**

**AND WAITING FOR THE DEATH SIGNAL TO SOUND IS THE ELECTRONIC DETONATOR! IT IS...**

**ONE MINUTE TO DOOM**

**AT THE ANTARCTIC BASE OF THE TYRAN INVADERS THE EARTHMEN, WHO HAVE CAPTURED THE GRAVITY CONTROL ROOM WITH THE AID OF A HYPNOTIZED TYRAN, FIND THEIR CAPTIVE USELESS TO THEM...**

**GARNAT CAN'T FUNCTION IN EARTH GRAVITY, SO WE'LL HAVE TO GO AHEAD WITH THIS JOB ON OUR OWN.**

**WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST! BY THIS TIME THE TYRANS KNOW WE'VE BROKEN IN HERE! THEY'LL COUNTER-ATTACK ANY SECOND NOW!**

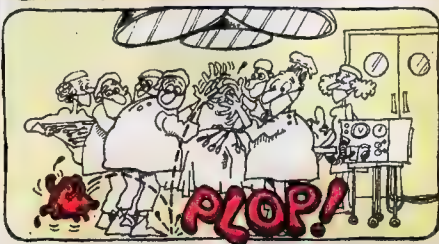
**THE GRAVITY CONTROL BOARD IS SO COMPLEX IT MAY BE DANGEROUS FOR US TO TRY TO CHANGE THE GRAVITY OF THE ENTIRE BASE--BUT I'VE LOCATED THE DETONATOR AREA AND CHANGED IT TO EARTH GRAVITY!**

CONTINUED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING





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- 11 ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD
- 12 ☐ DETECTIVE
- 13 ☐ THE FLASH
- 14 ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE
- 15 ☐ MUSTER MIRACLE
- 16 ☐ WONDER WOMAN
- 17 ☐ SUPERGIRL
- 18 ☐ SECRET ORIGINS

**MYSTERY**

- 30 ☐ GHOSTS
- 31 ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY
- 32 ☐ HOUSE OF SECRETS
- 33 ☐ PHANTOM STRANGER
- 34 ☐ THE UNEXPECTED
- 35 ☐ THE WITCHING HOUR
- 36 ☐ THE DEMON
- 37 ☐ SWAMP THING
- 40 ☐ FORBIDDEN TALES OF DARK MANSION

**41 ☐ SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE**

- 42 ☐ WEIRD MYSTERY TALES
- 43 ☐ THE SHADOW
- 70 ☐ WEIRD WESTERN TALES

**ROMANCE**

- 45 ☐ FALLING IN LOVE
- 46 ☐ GIRLS' LOVE STORIES
- 47 ☐ LOVE STORIES
- 48 ☐ YOUNG LOVE
- 49 ☐ YOUNG ROMANCE

**WAR**

- 60 ☐ G.I. COMBAT
- 61 ☐ OUR ARMY AT WAR
- 62 ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES
- 63 ☐ STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES
- 64 ☐ WORLD WAR TALES

**ADVENTURE**

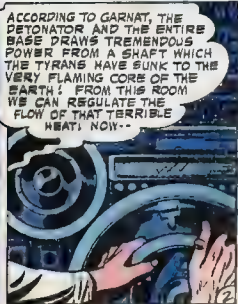
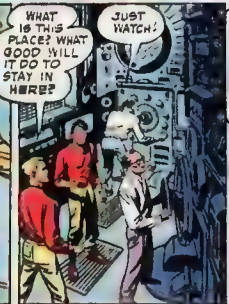
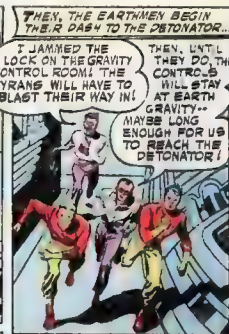
- 75 ☐ TARZAN
- 76 ☐ KORAK
- 77 ☐ WEIRD WORLDS
- 78 ☐ KAMANDI
- 79 ☐ SWORD OF SORCERY

**SCIENCE FICTION**

- 80 ☐ FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN
- 81 ☐ STRANGE ADVENTURES



# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



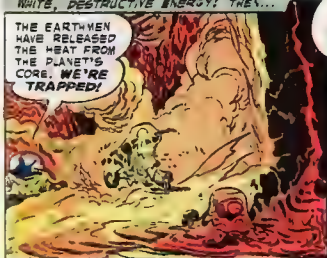


# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



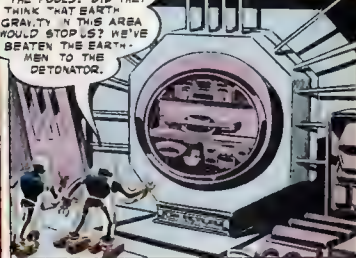
AS DR. MOSS TURNS THE WHEEL, AN OMINOUS WARMTH REACHES THE PURSUING TYRANS OUTS DE-- A WARMTH WHICH BECOMES UNBEARABLE HEAT-- A HEAT WHICH BECOMES WHITE, DESTRUCTIVE ENERGY! THEY...

THE EARTH MEN HAVE RELEASED THE HEAT FROM THE PLANET'S CORE. WE'RE TRAPPED!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE ROOM THAT HOUSES THE GREAT DETONATOR, GENERAL TOLEK AND AN AIDE, WEARING ROBBER PRESSES, PRESS INTO THE...

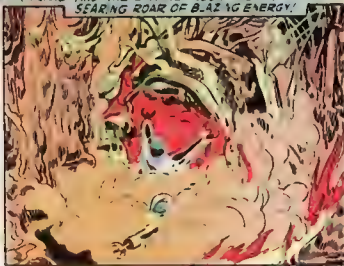
THE FOOLS! DID THEY THINK THAT EARTH GRAVITY IN THIS AREA WOULD STOP US? WE'VE BEATEN THE EARTH MEN TO THE DETONATOR.



AND, NOW, YOU CREATURES THAT CALL YOURSELVES HUMANS-- WHEN I PLUNGE THIS ROD HOME, YOUR CLAIM TO THIS PLANET WILL HAVE ENDED! HA-HA-HA!

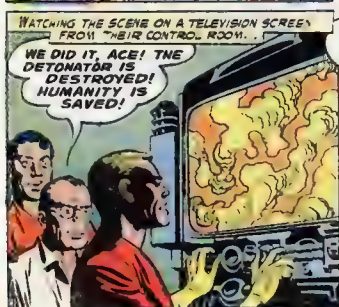


BUT TOLEK'S CRUEL ACT IS NEVER COMPLETED! EVEN AS HIS AIDE SHOUTS A WARNING, THE TYRANS AND THE ENTIRE ROOM DISOLVE IN A SEARING ROAR OF BLAZING ENERGY!



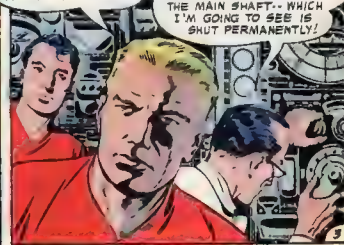
WATCHING THE SCENE ON A TELEVISION SCREEN FROM THEIR CONTROL ROOM...

WE DID IT, ACE! THE DETONATOR IS DESTROYED! HUMANITY IS SAVED!



WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET-- BUT WE'VE STOPPED THE MAIN THREAT TO EARTH!

NOW TO WITHDRAW THE HEAT FROM WHAT'S LEFT OF THE DETONATOR ROOM AND CHANNEL IT BACK TO THE MAIN SHAFT-- WHICH I'M GOING TO SEE IS SHUT PERMANENTLY!







# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



MEANWHILE, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY, RED RYAN IS BEING LANDED BY HELICOPTER ON THE ISLAND WHERE THE TYRAN MACHINE MOVES RELENTLESSLY AGAINST THE LIGHTLY EQUIPPED MARINE GARRISON!



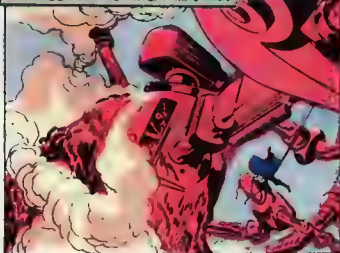
BUT LIKE A STRIKING COBRA, A MECHANICAL CLAW WHIPS OUT FROM THE TYRAN MACHINE AND PLUCKS RED FROM THE AIR!



TRY THIS! IT'S A NEW MIXTURE, COMPLIMENTS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL LABS AT THE ARMY'S CHEMICAL WARFARE DIVISION!



THE FIERY, CHEMICAL COMPOUND SPRAYED BY RED IS MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN NAPALM! THE FLAMES EAT LIKE BLAZING ACID INTO THE VITALS OF THE GREAT MACHINE.



THE STRICKEN MACHINE TURNS OVER, AND RED IS HURLED ABOUT IN THE ACTION. FORTUNATELY, HE LANDS IN A TREE!

EASY, FELLERS! IT'S A TIGHT FIT!

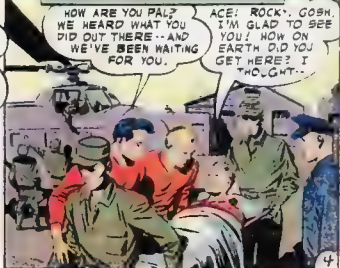
WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THERE AS SOON AS WE PULL THOSE THINGS APART!



WHEN RED IS RUSHED BACK TO WASHINGTON, HE SHOUTS IN GLEEFUL SURPRISE!

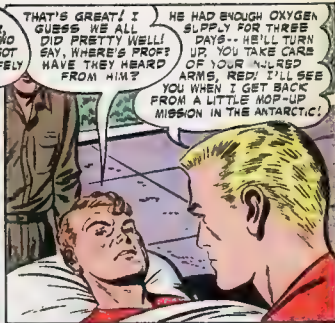
HOW ARE YOU PAL? WE HEARD WHAT YOU DID OUT THERE--AND WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

ACE! ROCK! GOSH, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU! HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET HERE? I THOUGHT--

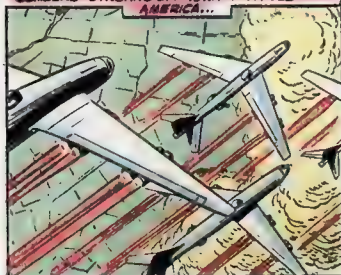




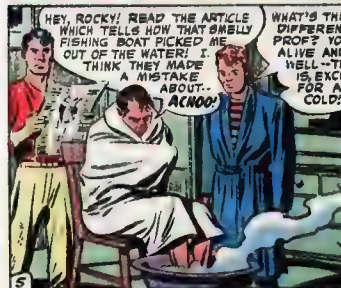
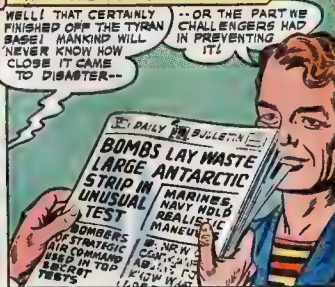
# CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN



LATER THAT DAY, WITH ACE MORGAN PILOTING THE LEAD SHIP, A SQUADRON OF LONG-RANGE JET BOMBERS STREAKS OFF TOWARD LITTLE AMERICA...



THE RESULT OF THAT MISSION IS REVEALED IN PART IN NEXT DAY'S NEWSPAPERS!



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- ★ 25 TANK MINES
- ★ 2 TANK BARRIERS\*
- ★ SIMPLE DIRECTIONS

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 BLOWING APART RIGHT OFF THE  
 PANORAMIC BATTLE FIELD

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A tank is a crawling, armored skinned, fire  
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 any helpless enemy. But, it can be stopped  
 with courage and daring—you're the "live  
 bait."

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- ★ 1 HUGE REALISTIC UNION STOCKADE FORT
- ★ 4 SHELTERED OBSERVATION TOWERS\*
- ★ 6 FIELD CANNONS\* — 12 spoked wheels
- ★ 2 ARMIES\* 64 Troops in Blue and Grey, fully equipped and in all battle positions
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- ★ SIMPLE DIRECTIONS for fighting your way across the battlefield with enough men and equipment to attack and capture the enemy fort.
- \*3-D plastic safe and reusable.

**EXPLODING**  
 BRIDGES ACTUALLY  
 BLOW APART RIGHT OFF  
 THE RIVER

**2 FORTS**  
 SPLIT LOG TYPE



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